



GAIL FARBER, Director

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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IN REPLY PLEASE
REFER TO FILE

October 18, 2016

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

38 October 18, 2016

LORI GLASGOW
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**SERVICE CONTRACT
SOLE-SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH
UNITED STATES BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
TO PROVIDE SPECIALIZED AS-NEEDED SERVICES FOR
LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT DAMS
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5)
(3 VOTES)**

SUBJECT

This action is to approve entering into an agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to perform specialized as-needed services for evaluation of dam safety and operational reliability improvements at Los Angeles County Flood Control District dams.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD ACTING AS THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT:

1. Find that the proposed recommendations are categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated in this Board letter and the record of the proposed recommendations.
2. Approve and authorize the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District or her designee to execute a 5-year agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to provide specialized as-needed services for Los Angeles County Flood Control District dams for a total fee not to exceed \$2,000,000.
3. Authorize the Chief Engineer of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District or her designee to administer the agreement and determine and direct the services to be provided under the

agreement.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to establish a new agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation to provide specialized as-needed services for Los Angeles Flood Control District dams including conducting assessment and evaluation studies, physical modeling, and peer reviews of projects to improve dam safety and operational reliability.

The District owns and operates 14 major dams located within the County of Los Angeles. Many of these facilities have been in service for over 80 years. The District requires specialized services to perform evaluations and studies at its dams. The required expertise and experience is currently not available within the District. These specialized services will be utilized as the District develops projects to increase the operational reliability of outlet valves and mechanical systems, to address dam safety improvements, to integrate new technology, and to meet new operational requirements. Dam outlet works and/or spillway improvements are planned for Big Tujunga, Cogswell, Devil's Gate, Pacoima, Puddingstone Diversion, and San Gabriel Dams that will enable additional reservoir storage to improve our ability to capture stormwater and increase the sustainability of local water supply. Having this agreement in place will also enable us to use expert resources to quickly respond to unusual events related to dam safety.

On June 29, 1999, the Board approved an agreement with the Bureau for \$330,000 to develop concepts for inlet and outlet modernization for District dams and to perform the technical review of the design plans for the outlet works at Morris Dam. On June 18, 2002, the Board approved two agreements with the Bureau for \$42,000 and \$325,000 to conduct threat assessments for District dams and to evaluate the inlet and outlet works at Big Tujunga, Puddingstone, and Santa Anita Dams, respectively. The Bureau was very responsive and comprehensive in its previous evaluation studies and peer reviews. The ability to employ the Bureau's expert services has proven to be a very valuable and unique resource for developing and implementing District dam projects.

The agreement calls for the Bureau to conduct assessment and evaluation studies and physical modeling of the dams' safety and performance, seismic stability, inlet/outlet works, spillway structures, and electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, and control systems on an as-needed basis. The studies may also include developing concepts for improvements, rehabilitations, and/or automation of various systems. In addition, the Bureau would perform technical peer reviews and inspections during design, construction, and rehabilitation activities.

The Bureau is a Federal agency that has constructed over 600 dams and reservoirs, including Hoover Dam. The Bureau's Technical Service Center consists of approximately 500 scientists and engineers, and operates a world-class materials and hydraulic engineering laboratory. The Bureau is familiar with the District's standards and is uniquely equipped and qualified to provide the specialized services necessary to support the District's programs to ensure the structural integrity and performance of District dams.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provisions of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1), Community Support and Responsiveness (Goal 2), and Integrated Services Delivery (Goal 3). This action is consistent with these goals since the Bureau has the expertise, experience, and qualifications to perform the required specialized engineering services in a timely manner to support necessary improvements maintaining the safety and operability of the dams,

critical for flood management and stormwater capture.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund.

The recommended agreement is for providing services over a 5-year period for a total fee not to exceed \$2,000,000. Financing for these services will be made available from the Flood Control District Fund Budget on an annual basis beginning in Fiscal Year 2016-17.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Pursuant to Government Code, Section 31000, the Board may authorize an agreement for special services on behalf of the County with specially trained persons to provide the services described herein, whereas such services are not available internally. The agreement has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel. The agreement would have a duration of 5 years from the date of execution and would include a provision whereby, the duration could be extended through an amendment for up to 12 additional months to allow for completion of ongoing work.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

These services are categorically exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act Guidelines. These services are within a class of work that has been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that they meet the criteria set forth in Sections 15306 and 15309 of the California Environmental Quality Act.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no adverse impact on current County services or projects during the performance of the recommended services.

CONCLUSION

Please return an adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Water Resources Division.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

10/18/2016

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gail Farber". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name "Gail" and last name "Farber" clearly distinguishable.

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:CS:sh

c: Chief Executive Office (Rochelle Goff)
County Counsel
Executive Office